

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

REC'D 02 JUN 2005

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To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

21/4

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing

(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/050024

International filing date (day/month/year)
04.01.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)
06.12.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
H04L12/28, H04L12/24, H04L29/08

Applicant
THOMSON LICENSING SA

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for International preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/050024

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/050024

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43b/s.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	2-5,7,9-11,13
	No: Claims	1,6,8,12
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-13
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-13
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 : US 6 466 549 B1 (HATTIG MYRON P) 15 October 2002 (2002-10-15)

D2 : US 2002/120672 A1 (WINTERTON RICHARD R ET AL) 29 August 2002
(2002-08-29)

D3 : WO 00/77618 A (SUN MICROSYSTEMS INC) 21 December 2000 (2000-12-21)

2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

2.1 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) a method of discovery (c.2 l.49-52), by a device connectable to a communication network, of the other devices connected to this network, comprising the following steps:

- connection (c.4 l.64 - c.5 l.7) of the device to the said network;
- dispatching (c.4 l.32-44 and l.58-64) of an announcement message containing auto-description information describing the device destined for all the other devices connected to this network;
- dispatching (c.4 l.32-44 and c.5 l.23-30) of an auto-description information request message to all the other devices connected to this network;
- reception of a response message from each of the other devices of the network containing the auto-description information of this other device.

3 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 8

3.1 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 8 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) a device connectable (c.4 l.64 - c.5 l.7) to a network, said device possessing means for dispatching (c.4 l.32-44 and l.58-64) an announcement message, containing auto-description information describing it, to all the other devices in the network, means for

dispatching (c.4 l.32-44 and c.5 l.23-30) a message for requesting auto-description information to all the other devices in the network and means for receiving the response messages containing information describing each of the other devices of the network.

4 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 6 AND 12

Dependent claims 6 and 12 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty (Article 33(2) PCT) since their combinations of features are also known from D1 (see c.4 l.59-60).

5 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 3-5, 7, 9-11 AND 13

Dependent claims 3-5, 7, 9-11 and 13 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT), since document D2 shows the additional features of claims 3-5 and 9-11 and document D3 the additional features of claims 7 and 13, in such a way that it appears that the person skilled in the art would apply them without any inventive skill to the method and device known from document D1.